

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A rolling device comprising an outer member and an inner member each having a raceway surface and rolling elements having a rolling surface interposed between the raceway surfaces of the outer member and the inner member and rolling on the raceway surfaces by rotational or linear movement of the outer member or the inner member in which

the outer member and/or the inner member comprises titanium alloy that has at least one of beta (β) phase type titanium alloys, near beta (β) phase type titanium alloys and mixed phases of alpha (α) and [[+]] beta (β) type titanium alloys, at the room temperature respectively,

wherein the outer member and/or the inner member has a raceway surface hardness from Hv 400 or more to Hv 592 or less,

the outer member and/or the inner member has a core hardness of Hv420 or more and has an oxygen compound layer at the raceway surface, and the oxygen compound layer comprises titanium oxide containing rutile type TiO_2 and has a thickness from 20nm or more to 95nm or less.

2-3. (cancelled)

4. (currently amended) A rolling device as defined in ~~claim 3~~ claim 1, wherein the core hardness of the outer member and/or the inner member is Hv 450 or more and the thickness of the oxygen compound layer comprises titanium oxide containing rutile type TiO_2 is from 50 nm or more to 95 nm or less.

5. (previously presented) A rolling device as defined in claim 1, wherein the rolling elements comprise at least one of titanium alloys, silicon nitride,

silicon carbide, zirconia series ceramics, alumina series ceramics and SIALON series ceramics.

6. (currently amended) A rolling device comprising an outer member and an inner member each having a raceway surface, rolling elements having rolling surfaces interposed between the raceway ~~surface~~ surfaces of the outer member and the inner member and rolling on the raceway ~~surface~~ surfaces by rotational or linear movement of the outer member or the inner member and a cage for holding the rolling elements in which

the outer member and/or the inner member comprises titanium alloy that has at least one of beta (β) phase type-titanium-alloys, near beta (β) phase type titanium-alloys and mixed phases of alpha (α) and [[+]] beta (β) type-titanium-alloys at the room temperature respectively, and the outer member and/or the inner member has a raceway surface hardness from [[of]] Hv 400 or more ~~and less than to~~ Hv 592 or less and the cage has a heat conductivity of 20 W/(m·K) or more.

7. (previously presented) A rolling device as defined in claim 6, wherein the cage comprises one of copper, tellurium copper, brass, aluminum bronze, phosphorus bronze, nickel silver, cupro nickel and beryllium copper.

8. (currently amended) A rolling device comprising an outer member and an inner member each having a raceway surface and rolling elements having rolling surfaces interposed between the raceway ~~surface~~ surfaces of the outer member and the inner member and rolling on the raceway ~~surface~~ surfaces by rotational or linear movement of the outer member or the inner member in which

at least one of the outer member, the inner member and the rolling elements comprises titanium alloy that has at least one of beta (β) phase type titanium-alloys, near beta (β) phase type-titanium-alloys and mixed phases of alpha (α) and [[+]] beta (β) type-titanium-alloys at the room temperature respectively and one of the raceway surfaces of the outer member and the inner member and the

rolling surfaces of the rolling elements has omega (ω) phase with the size of the crystal particles of 1 μm or less.

9. (original) A rolling device as defined in claim 8, wherein the size of the crystal particles is 800 nm or less.

10. (original) A rolling device as defined in claim 8, wherein the size of the crystal particles is 10 nm or less.

11. (original) A rolling device as defined in claim 1, wherein the outer member and/or the inner member has a hard film on the raceway surface.

12. (original) A rolling device as defined in claim 11, wherein the raceway surface formed with the hard film has a surface hardness of Hv of 350 or more.

13. (original) A rolling device as defined in claim 11, wherein the raceway surface formed with the hard film has a surface hardness of Hv of 450 or more.

14. (previously presented) A rolling device as defined in claim 11, wherein the hard film comprises at least one of TiN, TiC, TiCN, TiAlN, CrN, SiC and diamond-like carbon.

15. (currently amended) A rolling device ~~as defined in claim 11,~~ comprising an outer member and an inner member each having a raceway surface and rolling elements having a rolling surface interposed between the raceway surfaces of the outer member and the inner member and rolling on the raceway surfaces by rotational or linear movement of the outer member or the inner member in which the outer member and/or the inner member comprises titanium alloy that has at least one of beta (β) phase, near beta (β) phase and mixed phases of alpha (α) and beta (β), at the room temperature respectively.

wherein the outer member and/or the inner member has a raceway surface hardness from Hv400 or more to Hv592 or less,

the outer member and/or the inner member has a hard film on the raceway surface and has a lubricating film of 0.1 μm to 10 μm on the hard film.

16. (currently amended) A rolling device as defined in ~~claim 11~~ claim 15, wherein the outer member and/or inner member has a lubricating film of 0.1 μm to 5 μm on the hard film.

17. (currently amended) A rolling device as defined in claim 1, wherein all of the rolling elements comprise a superhard alloy or cermet.

18. (currently amended) A rolling device as defined in ~~claim 17~~, comprising an outer member and an inner member each having a raceway surface and rolling elements having a rolling surface interposed between the raceway surfaces of the outer member and the inner member and rolling on the raceway surfaces by rotational or linear movement of the outer member or the inner member in which the outer member and/or the inner member comprises titanium alloy that has at least one of beta (β) phase, near beta (β) phase and mixed phases of alpha (α) and beta (β), at the room temperature respectively,

wherein the outer member and/or the inner member has a raceway surface hardness from Hv400 or more to Hv592 or less,

the all of the rolling elements comprise a superhard alloy or cermet and have a heat conductivity of 35 W/(m·K) or more.

19. (currently amended) A rolling device as defined in ~~claim 17~~ claim 18, wherein all of the rolling elements have a heat conductivity of 50 W/(m·K) or more.

20. (currently amended) A rolling device ~~as defined in claim 1~~, comprising an outer member and an inner member each having a raceway surface

and rolling elements having a rolling surface interposed between the raceway surfaces of the outer member and the inner member and rolling on the raceway surfaces by rotational or linear movement of the outer member or the inner member in which the outer member and/or the inner member comprises titanium alloy that has at least one of beta (β) phase, near beta (β) phase and mixed phases of alpha (α) and beta (β), at the room temperature respectively,

wherein the outer member and/or the inner member has a raceway surface hardness from Hv400 or more to Hv592 or less,

all of the rolling elements have a surface hardening layer comprising an iron and steel material and has a corrosion resistance on the surface.

21. (currently amended) A rolling device as defined in claim 20, wherein the surface hardening layer is formed by applying a chromium diffusion penetration treatment on the surface of a base material comprising all of the rolling elements.

22. (currently amended) A rolling device as defined in claim 20, wherein the surface hardening layer contains a nitride layer formed by applying a nitridation treatment to the surface of a base material comprising all of the rolling elements.

23. (currently amended) A rolling device ~~as defined in claim 1,~~ comprising an outer member and an inner member each having a raceway surface and rolling elements having a rolling surface interposed between the raceway surfaces of the outer member and the inner member and rolling on the raceway surfaces by rotational or linear movement of the outer member or the inner member in which the outer member and/or the inner member comprises titanium alloy that has at least one of beta (β) phase, near beta (β) phase and mixed phases of alpha (α) and beta (β), at the room temperature respectively,

wherein the ~~at least one~~ titanium alloy satisfies the condition: $3.7 \leq (H/E)$ where E (Gpa) represents the Young's modulus and H (Hv) represents the minimum hardness from the raceway surface to a depth of 2/100 to 5/100 of the diameter of the rolling ~~elements~~ element,

the outer member and/or the inner member has a raceway surface hardness from Hv400 or more to Hv592 or less.

24. (currently amended) A rolling device ~~as defined in claim 1~~ comprising an outer member and an inner member each having a raceway surface and rolling elements having a rolling surface interposed between the raceway surfaces of the outer member and the inner member and rolling on the raceway surfaces by rotational or linear movement of the outer member or the inner member in which the outer member and/or the inner member comprises titanium alloy that has at least one of beta (β) phase, near beta (β) phase and mixed phases of alpha (α) and beta (β), at the room temperature respectively,

wherein the ~~at least one~~ titanium alloy satisfies the condition: $4.0 \leq (H/E)$ where E (Gpa) represents the Young's modulus and H (Hv) represents the minimum hardness from the raceway surface to a depth of 2/100 to 5/100 of the diameter of the rolling ~~elements~~ element,

the outer member and/or the inner member has a raceway surface hardness from Hv400 or more to Hv592 or less.

25. (original) A rolling device as defined in claim 23 or 24 wherein (H/E) is 4.5 or less.

26. (currently amended) A rolling device ~~as defined in claim 1~~, comprising an outer member and an inner member each having a raceway surface and rolling elements having a rolling surface interposed between the raceway surfaces of the outer member and the inner member and rolling on the raceway surfaces by rotational or linear movement of the outer member or the inner member

in which the outer member and/or the inner member comprises titanium alloy that has at least one of beta (β) phase, near beta (β) phase and mixed phases of alpha (α) and beta (β), at the room temperature respectively,

wherein the outer member and/or the inner member has a raceway surface hardness from Hv400 or more to Hv592 or less,

~~wherein~~ the ratio α_2/α_1 between the heat expansion coefficient α_1 of the outer member and/or the inner member and the heat expansion coefficient α_2 of the rolling elements element is within a range of 0.4 to 1.3.

27. (currently amended) A rolling device ~~as defined in claim 1,~~ comprising an outer member and an inner member each having a raceway surface and rolling elements having a rolling surface interposed between the raceway surfaces of the outer member and the inner member and rolling on the raceway surfaces by rotational or linear movement of the outer member or the inner member in which the outer member and/or the inner member comprises titanium alloy that has at least one of beta (β) phase, near beta (β) phase and mixed phases of alpha (α) and beta (β), at the room temperature respectively,

wherein the rolling device further comprises a shield plate for shielding an opening formed between the outer member and the inner member and the shield plate is formed of titanium at a purity of 99.5% or higher,

the outer member and/or the inner member has a raceway surface hardness from Hv400 or more to Hv592 or less..

28. (previously presented) A rolling device as defined in claim 26, wherein each of the outer member and the inner member has an oxide film containing TiO_x ($x = 0 - 2$) on its surface.

29. (currently amended) A rolling device as defined in any one of claims 8, 11, 16, [[19,]] 25 and 26 wherein all of the rolling elements comprise at

Application No. 10/069,076
Reply dated May 18, 2004
Response to Office Action dated January 13, 2004

least one of titanium alloys, silicon nitride, silicon carbide, zirconia series ceramics, alumina series ceramics and SIALON series ceramics.

30. (currently amended) A rolling device as defined in any one claims [[2,]] 11, 16, 19, 22, 25 and 26 wherein the rolling device further comprises a cage for holding the rolling elements and the cage comprises one of copper, tellurium copper, brass, aluminum bronze, phosphorus bronze, nickel silver, cupro nickel and beryllium copper.